

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 074261  
ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /014 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: IO/HDC:JJBUCZACKI

APPROVED BY: IO/HDC:RANDREW

-----032247Z 046073 /63

R 032238Z APR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USMISSION GENEVA 7843

S E C R E T STATE 074261

FOLLOWING REPEAT VIENTIANE 651 ACTION SECSTATE INFO  
CHIANG MAI HONG KONG BANGKOK JAKARTA KUALA LUMPUR  
MANILA PARIS RANGOON SINGAPORE THE HAGUE CINCPAC  
DEA DTD 29 MAR

QTE

S E C R E T VIENTIANE 0651

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: SNAR LA

SUBJECT: LAO OPIUM IN THE INTERNATIONAL ILLICIT DRUG MARKET

REF A BANGKOK 6685, B 76 VIENTIANE 2853, C 76 VIENTIANE  
2616, D DEA GFWA-7(8002, FEBRUARY 16, 1977, E DEA-6  
GFWA-76-8002, NOVEMBER 8, 1976, F VIENTIANE 0262,  
G 76 VIENTIANE 2971, H BANGKOK 1481 (ALL REFS NOTAL)

1. VIENTIANE WELCOMES REF A'S ATTEMPTS TO COMPILE  
NARCOTICS PRODUCTION AND USAGE DATA IN THE REGION BUT  
REITERATES ITS RESERVATIONS REGARDING REF A'S (PARA 3)  
CONCLUSION THAT "THE GENERAL CONSENSUS SEEMS TO BE  
THAT ALMOST ALL OPIUM PRODUCED IN LAOS IS CONSUMED

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THERE."

2. AS WE HAVE ARGUED EARLIER (REFS B, C), THERE ARE  
AMPLE GROUNDS FOR BELIEF THAT LAO OPIUM DOES ENTER THE  
ILLICIT WORLD MARKET FOR NARCOTICS. RECENT REPORTING  
FROM BANGKOK AND VIENTIANE (REFS D, E, F) TENDS TO  
SUBSTANTIATE THIS VIEW.

3. A FACTOR THAT MAY SKEW ANY STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF OPIUM PRODUCTION/USAGE FOR LAOS IS THE LIKELIHOOD THAT SIGNIFICANT QUANTITIES OF LAO OPIUM PRODUCED IN PREVIOUS YEARS IN PATHET LAO CONTROLLED AREAS OF LAOS MAY ONLY RECENTLY HAVE BEGUN TO ENTER WORLD NARCOTICS TRAFFIC. LAO INTEREST IN SELLING TO JAPAN QUANTITIES OF OPIUM FAR IN EXCESS OF LPDR'S ESTIMATED ANNUAL PRODUCTION (REF G) AND LPDR PRACTICE OF MAINTAINING AT LEAST SOME STOCKS OF OPIUM (REF H) SUPPORT THIS IMPRESSION. CORCOJAN UNQTE VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** OPIUM, FOREIGN MARKETS, DRUG TRAFFIC  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1977STATE074261  
**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** IO/HDC:JJBUCZACKI  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X2  
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**TAGS:** SNAR, LA  
**To:** GENEVA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/f44901ab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
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